

# PORTHWIDDEN

(St. Ives)

A hidden treasure of a beach which is only 250m from the harbour but has the old heart of St. Ives called 'downalong' with its narrow streets and delightful cottages in between. It is shielded from the northerly winds by 'the Island' headland with its distinctive former chapel on the summit. It faces east with marvellous views across the Bay. Its name means 'White Cove' in Cornish.



The beach with 'the Island' behind



**TR26 1PL** - For access and parking details refer to the overview for [St. Ives](#). From 'The Sloop' by the Harbour in the centre of Town, it is a short walk up Fish Street and Island Road; the beach is behind the Island car park. The main access is down a ramp although there steps from the Island on one side and Bamaluz Point on the other. [Porthmeor Beach](#) is the other side of the Island car park close by with



The beach and cafe



Ramp down to the beach



Low water in summer



View across the bay

[Bamaluz Beach](#) around the Point on the other side.



It is not as large as neighbouring [Porthmeor Beach](#), the [Harbour Beach](#) or [Porthminster Beach](#). It has an 80m strip of dry sand above high water; when the tide goes out, a gently sloping beach of glorious fine golden sand is exposed. It is popular with families but is usually less crowded than the larger beaches in the Town.



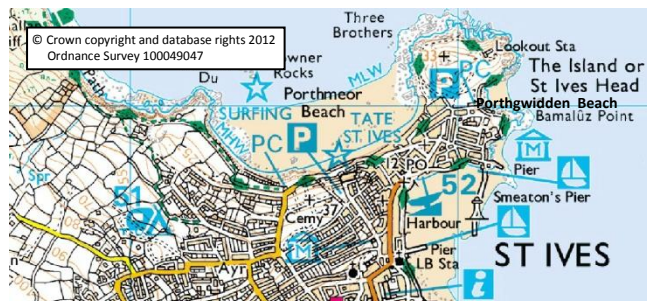
There is safety equipment above the beach. There are no lifeguards but in an emergency they can be contacted at [Porthmeor Beach](#) adjacent to the facilities at the centre of the beach.



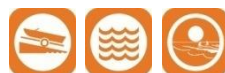
Details are shown in the overview for [St. Ives](#).



Dogs are permitted from November to Easter Day and from 19.00 to 8.00 hrs all year. There are toilets at the top of the ramp to the beach. There is a beach shop, coffee kiosk and cafe next to the beach, a range of shops, restaurants and pubs in the town nearby, and beach huts for hire. The beach facilities at [Porthmeor Beach](#) are less than 500m.



Location – Part of OS Explorer Map 102



The ramp cannot really be used as a slipway due to the plethora of signs and people using the beach in summer. The beach is cleaned and the water quality is generally good. With the town centre so close and such a wonderful aspect it has much to recommend it.